



# Embassy of the United States of America

## Public Affairs Section

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## Press Release

### United States to donate \$US 5 million for Food Security in Bolivia

The U.S. Government will donate \$US 5 million in wheat flour to Bolivia within the framework of its cooperation program established by Public Law 480, Title I.

U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia David Greenlee will announce the donation today in Santa Cruz during the inauguration of the new facilities of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS-IS), the International Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Under this donation, the details of which are being finalized, the United States Government will donate wheat flour totaling approximately \$US 5 million. The flour will be marketed in Bolivia, and the profits will be used to finance agricultural development programs of the National Service of Agricultural Security and Food Safety of Bolivia (SENASAG). This program will be funded and managed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

APHIS-IS will coordinate closely with SENASAG to design and implement programs to protect Bolivian agriculture and to promote international trade in agricultural products that are free of diseases and pests.

According to data from the Bolivian National Association of Vegetable Oil Producers, Bolivia's annual wheat demand is four times greater than current internal production. Bolivians consume up to 659,000 tons of wheat per year while national production is only between 120,000 and 150,000 metric tons. Thus, this donation will not only ensure the quality and safety of Bolivian agricultural products, but also will satisfy the public's demand for wheat flour. In the past, the U.S. Government, through the PL-480 program, has devoted part of the monetized resources derived from this kind of program to fund projects fostering Bolivian wheat production.

Annually, U.S. cooperation assistance to Bolivia is approximately \$US 150 million. The PL-480, Title I program represents an additional donation from the U.S. Government. In the past three years, donations under this program totaled \$US 15 million, an average of \$US 5 million per year.

In addition to the PL-480, Title I program, the U.S. Government supports the Bolivian agricultural sector through bilateral cooperation projects that seek to achieve several key goals, such as:

- Satisfying internal food demand and achieving food security.
- Creating licit, sustainable, and dignified jobs.
- Generating exports to support economic growth

With this donation, the U.S. Government demonstrates its commitment to continued collaboration with Bolivian people in order to ensure a better future through safe, high quality food production and higher yields.

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